

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

WILMINGTON, N. C., MARCH 8, 1866.

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The last of Power as New England Understands it.

Last of power is a characteristic of man as of parties. When it springs mainly from a sordid love of gain, it is most despicable. When power is coveted as a means of charity and philanthropy, the desire may be pardoned; it is the foible, if not the virtue, of the noble and great. When courted or seized merely for its own sake, the vice of the act may, in many respects, be redeemed by the absence of mean cupidity, vile appetite, low desire, grasping avarice, or petty vanity, and has been the sin and error of many of the foremost among men.

Power attained by unscrupulous means or accident, and wielded with no higher motive than to fill the pocket, is a means of good converted into an instrument of evil. Such is the power now grasped by the Black Republican majority in Congress. The unforeseen events of the late civil war elevated to position those whom the people would have rejected in peace, — the people who have so repeatedly doubted their integrity, and condemned their political principles.

In the storm of war it is easy for the loud, the vicious, and the audacious to appropriate riches and place. To New England we attribute the late lamentable struggle; and the spirit that now continues the contest in a different form, and animates and inflames the partisans of Sumner and Stevens, is of New England. With a soul never elevated above that of the tradesman, New England was for many lustres excluded from power by the combined strength of northern and southern Democrats, and thus was insatiable avarice baffled and disappointed. The war withdrew the south from the political field of the Union; that south whose citizens were nearly a unit in support of the principles and policy of Jefferson and Madison, and Jackson. This was New England's opportunity and eagerly embraced. We identify New England with the so-called Republican party; we use them as convertible terms, for, though the party embraces many States, the soul of New England inhabits, directs, and pollutes its body.

Now that "war hath smoothed its wrinkled front," now that peace allows the people to exercise memory, reflection and judgment calmly and soberly, the voice of the people will soon be heard in rebuke, and its hand soon uplifted in the expulsion of the unclean from the temple of liberty.

The writing upon the wall is very visible, and the Republicans tremble. As the peril becomes more and more imminent, they are excited almost to madness and rave against the President and his supporters with unparalleled malignancy and ferocity.

"The Union has never ceased to exist: it still exists," so says the President; but factious Stevens and his colleagues practically declare the contrary false to professions, false to official oaths. They declare it exists in an inchoate and imperfect form, if at all, and shall so continue until the permanency of their party be secured. Reckless, the fear of loss of power drives, and will drive them to wild experiments and perilous devices, if not to treason. "The 'quondam' slave must be a voter: the creature of our party, he must ever be subject to our authority. By the 'freedom's Bureau' by its vigilant care and its bounties, we will secure him forever, while the agents of this institution will supply a formidable body of political propagandists in the enemy's territory. If the President resist, and if no lover of the rights of humanity — liberty, equality and fraternity — anticipate our action by assassination, we will impeach him." Such is their programme and so they reason.

In the name of the democracy of the Union, we say to these agents: The Republicans will soon come to grief: what they regard as a sure support, will prove as the straw in the clutch of the drowning man.

The negro owes them nothing, so far: he is just about square with them. They have liberated him, it is true; but then, of Americans, it was they who tore him from Africa and sold him into bondage here. They must do something more for him.

The exclusive, the devoted friend must neglect, and sacrifice the white man for the black: he must feed and clothe the negro, too lazy to work; provide asylums for the sick, disabled, and aged; and teach the young. In all cases where the negro is concerned, the trial by jury must be denied; and a white man must be arraigned before a military court. They must confer upon the negro social and political equality: concede him a seat at their tables, — denied to their poor white brother, — and give him their daughters in marriage. They must overlook suffering and indigence, and ignorance at home, if the victims be white, that they may the better serve the black. If all this does not satisfy, they must change his skin.

The people are intelligent and practical: they will soon detect and expose chams: they will strip the spurious mantle of philanthropy from the shoulders of hypocrisy; and, uniting under the banner of Democracy, restore the Union of our fathers to its pristine condition. The rural population of the south and west will act in concert for self-protection, perceiving that their common interest requires on their part antagonism to the selfish policy of New England, direct bounties on codfishing, indirect bounties on manufactures, &c., &c., upon the principle that charity begins at home, and that a man's first duties are to his own family and race, they will commit the destinies of the Republic to white men, with white instincts, white affections and white virtues. You and we, reader, and every true patriot, when the day arrives, will mark it with "white chalk."

A farmer of whom we not, long ago astonished a couple of ladies, after assisting them to alight from their buggy, by pointing to his house and saying, "Now you go in and strip." The Republicans invite us into the Union, outside of which they insist we are in a somewhat different manner: they propose that we shall strip before we come in. To this we demur. As we are already effectually stripped, further stripping can scarce mean less than flying. Let us not, however, demur. Emerging from a bloody war, sadder but

wiser men, we are ready and eager to restore past relations between the south and the north — the south and the Union; and we are well assured that there are good men and true north of the Potomac, and in sufficient number, to take our lands in cordial amity, and to lead the States recently in rebellion to their seats upon the floor of the capitol.

Assuming a perfect restoration of past relations, and content to "let the dead bury their dead," we look to the future with hope; to a prosperous, intelligent, and united people, and to national grandeur beyond the reach of insult or assault.

New Books.

From the publishers, and T. S. Whitaker, we have had placed on our table, "The Brigand, or the Demon of the North," by Victor Hugo, and "Jealousy," by George Sand. Like all of Hugo's writings, the Brigand certainly merits a respectable place among the standard works of modern literature, and one can scarce fail to be pleased by a perusal of it.

"Jealousy," by George Sand — Madame Dudaunt — is quite interesting. Born among the roses, to the sound of music, as the author was, and in early years accustomed to listen to marvellous tales, while wandering along the banks of the Indre, for child-like chasing the butterfly in the ravines of the "Dark Valley," it was but an easy task upon arriving to years of discretion, to give to others in her own beautiful style, that which nature had blessed her with. The tale opens with a glow of Luthario, singing an operatic air before the window of a married woman, who either charmed by the voice, or conscious that her husband is bound in the two-fold cord of Morpheus and Bacchus, rushes out and with a woman-like refusal, finally consents to take a ride just before sun-rise. Soon seated in the "brizaka," the hero attempts flattery, then love-letters, a little poetry — the beautifully tinted rays of the rising sun, its hues of purple and gold are desecrated upon, and poor woman, though married, she does not know what love is, even feigns utter ignorance, with a quasi excuse that all the men she is ever surrounded by, are either vain and stupid, or intellectual and cold — pitying the former, fearing the latter. The apparent object of the hero is to dispel the annals of his fair companion, but the conversation is suddenly interrupted by the appearance of a *Cure*, with whom they attend mass, and finally persuade to accompany them in their morning picnic excursion. On leaving the Church a little girl is discovered quite devout and attracts attention, much to the disquietude of the *Cure*. — The usual sights and scenes of such a country is passed by, when they finally stop for breakfast, where the *Cure* enjoys his wine not a little. The little worshipper suddenly reappears, and is discovered to be a bird-tamer, but upon seeing the *Cure*, like some Gorgon, he dispels the charm. A manifest interest however being displayed by our hero, and the *Cure* rebuked, she again displays her wondrous gift, and for the first time jealousy is exhibited, but alas from the heroine soon brings the wanderer to her feet.

A child of the sun, and natural poet, met, who under an assumed name and character, takes charge of the entire party and brings it, after many perilous adventures, into an Italian city, where a night full of romance is passed. An early start is made in the morning, and again are exhibited symptoms of jealousy, and of course — love in all its various forms — rejection, hatred, reconciliation, &c., all showing that love is but friendship, carried to enthusiasm.

The completion of bridges which have been destroyed upon these roads, the leveling road-beds, the relaying with suitable iron, &c., &c., will soon furnish the wayfarer with speedier, safer and more comfortable transit.

Wilmington and Weldon Railroad. We may also all well remark here, that the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad will soon be placed in a condition that will enable it to compete with any rival route, and thereby enable passengers from north to south, and vice versa, to make shorter time than by any other route.

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by Col. Slingsby, while the whigs were led by Col. Thomas Brown. This engagement was characterized and won by strategy and tact. Here Slingsby received his mortal wound. But we will quote for the benefit of our readers an extract from a history of this battle, written some years ago, for a paper of this town:

The battle of Elizabethtown deserves a place in history, and ought to be recollected by every true-hearted North Carolinian with pride and satisfaction. Here sixty men, driven from their homes, their estates ravaged, and houses plundered, who had taken refuge with the Whigs of Duplin, without funds, and with no other resources than their own strength, and the arms they carried, made their way through almost a wilderness country, before they reached the river, subsisting on jerked beef and a scanty supply of bread. The Tories had assembled, three hundred or more at Elizabethtown, and were commanded by Slingsby and Godden: the former was a tall, thin man, and well fitted for his station; the latter, bold, daring and reckless, ready to risk everything to put down the Whigs. Every precautionary measure was adopted to prevent surprise, and to render this the stronghold of Toryism. Not a boat was suffered to remain on the east side of the river, and sentries were regularly detached and posted. When the little band of Whigs, after nightfall, reached the river, not a boat was to be found, but it must be crossed, and this speedily; its depth was ascertained by some who were tall and expert swimmers; they to a man cried out, "It is fordable, we can, we will cross it. Not a murmur was heard, and without a moment's delay, they all undressed, tied their clothing and ammunition on their heads (baggage they had none), each man grasping the barrel of his gun, raised the breast so as to keep the look above water, descended the banks, and entered the river. The men found little difficulty in passing. 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